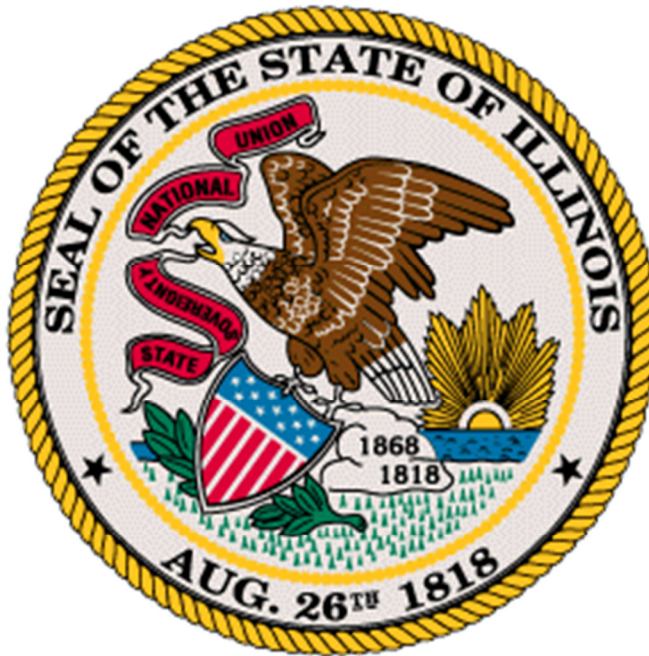


**Office of the State's Attorney  
Union County, Illinois**

**2014 Annual Report**



**Tyler R. Edmonds,  
State's Attorney**

## **A Letter from the State's Attorney**

It continues to be my honor and privilege to serve as your State's Attorney and I am again pleased to present our Annual Report for your review. Publication of the State's Attorney's Annual Report is an important means to promote transparency and accountability while also updating elected officials, law enforcement and social service agencies, and the citizens of Union County on efforts of the State's Attorney's Office during the past year.

This Annual Report provides information regarding the structure, staffing, funding and expenditures of the State's Attorney's Office as well as a breakdown of cases filed, fines and restitution to crime victims.

The services provided by the State's Attorney's Office are only possible because of a dedicated staff and the efforts of law enforcement and other agencies such as the Department of Children and Family Services and the Child Advocacy Center. I hope this Annual Report increases public awareness of the hard work of these individuals while also providing important information regarding the efforts of this office in 2014.

Sincerely,



Tyler R. Edmonds  
Union County State's Attorney

## **Office Overview**

The Union County State's Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting all violations of criminal law occurring within Union County on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois. Additionally, the office serves as legal counsel to Union County government including the Board of County Commissioners and other elected officials. The State's Attorney's Office also prosecutes violations of Union County ordinances and represents the County in civil court proceedings.

The State's Attorney's Office consists of three full-time attorneys and two full-time legal assistants. The office's Victim Advocate Unit provides services to crime victims and consists of one full-time Victim Advocate and a part-time Victim-Witness Coordinator.

The guiding principle for the Union County State's Attorney's Office is found in Illinois Supreme Court Rule 3.8:

*The duty of a public prosecutor . . . is to seek justice, not merely to convict.*

In each individual case, the office seeks to ensure that justice is served for all parties involved and for the People of the State of Illinois.

## **Significant Office Accomplishments**

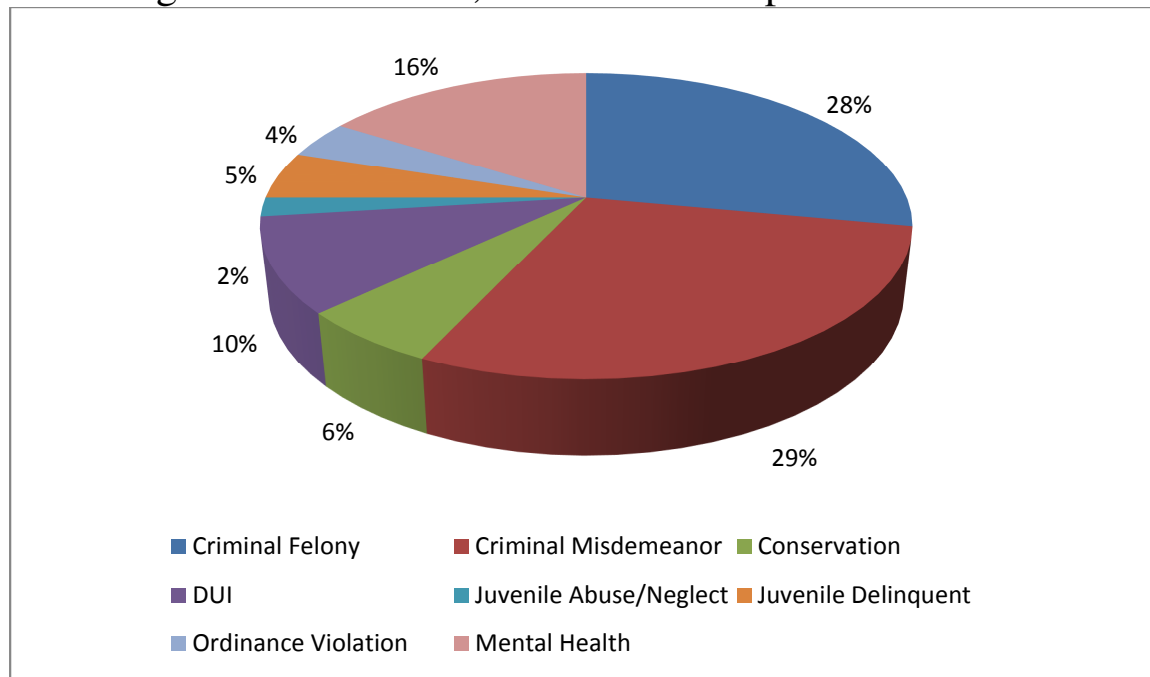
- Murphysboro man sentenced to 12 years for Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine with the Intent to Deliver
- Anna man sentenced to 10 years for Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault and Unlawful Restraint
- Jonesboro man sentenced to 10 years for Possession of Stolen Vehicle
- Jonesboro man sentenced to 7 years for attempting to disarm Sheriff's Deputy
- Wolf Lake woman sentenced to 2 years and ordered to pay over \$200,000 in restitution for thefts from Wolf Lake community organizations and units of local government
- Alto Pass man committed for 51 years for Predatory Criminal Sexual Abuse of a Child and Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse
- Obtained over \$400,000 in grants for juvenile justice programs to provide services to at-risk youth

## Criminal Prosecution

The State's Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting all crimes that occur within Union County and pursuing certain civil matters including Juvenile Abuse and Neglect cases and involuntary mental health commitments. During 2014, **4360** cases were opened with the following breakdown:

<u>Case Type</u>	<u>Filings</u>
Criminal Felony	280
Criminal Misdemeanor	284
Conservation	66
DUI	101
Juvenile Abuse/Neglect	24
Juvenile Delinquent	52
Ordinance Violation	42
Mental Health	122
Traffic	3389
<b>Total</b>	<b>4360</b>

Excluding Traffic Citations, these cases compare as follows:



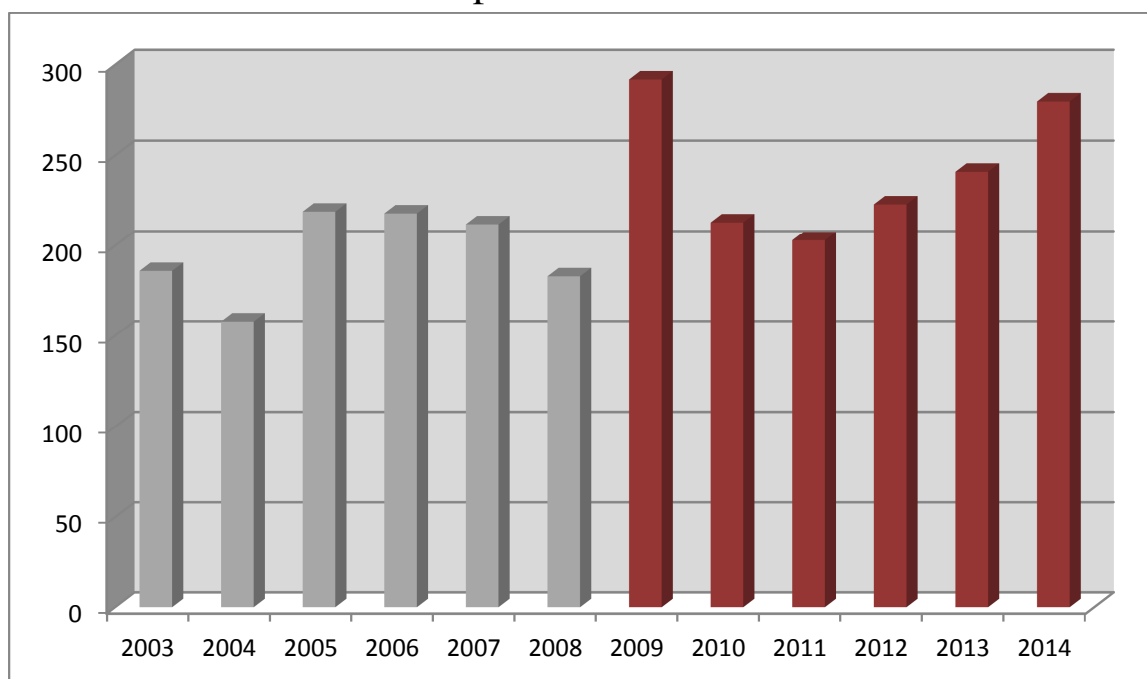
## Felony Cases

### *Felonies Filed*

During 2014, the State's Attorney's Office filed 280 felony cases.

Year	Felony Cases Filed
2003	186
2004	158
2005	219
2006	218
2007	212
2008	183
<b>2009</b>	<b>292</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>213</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>241</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>280</b>

These numbers can be compared as follows:

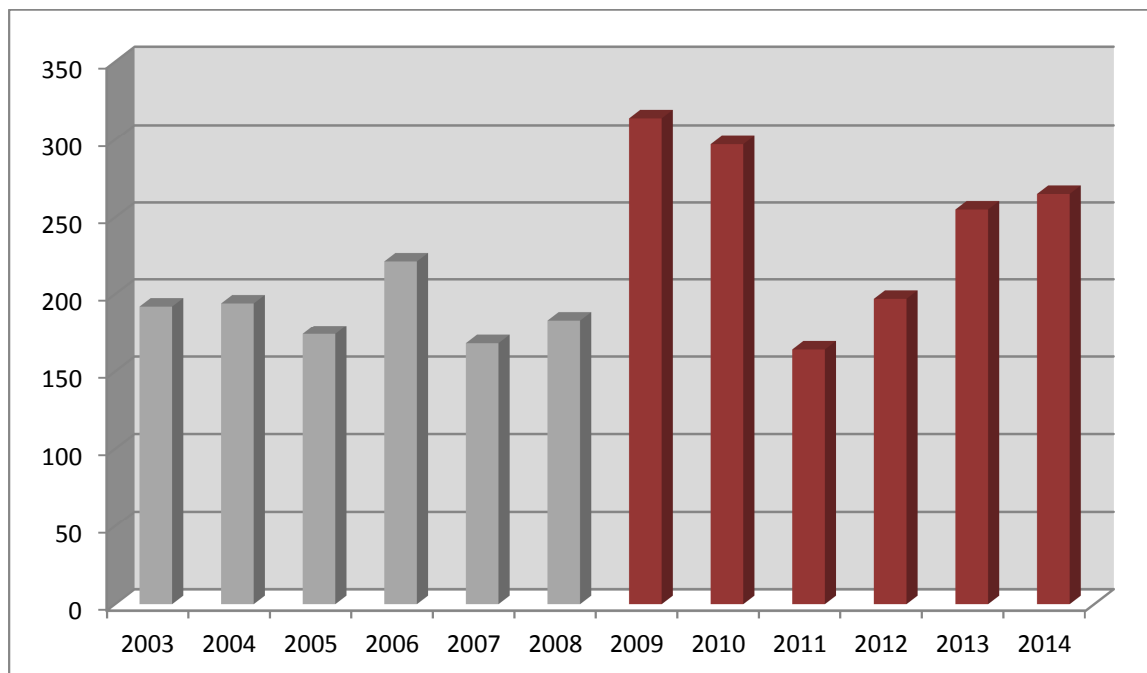


### **Felony Dispositions**

Beginning in 2009, the State's Attorney's Office undertook a concerted effort to reduce the backlog of open cases and achieve dispositions in as timely a manner as possible. Moving cases quickly and efficiently through the court system results in better outcomes at trial, protects the public from repeat offenders and provides certainty and closure for victims and the community. During 2014, dispositions were achieved in 265 felony cases, a number significantly higher than the pre-2009 average.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Felony Dispositions</b>
2003	192
2004	194
2005	174
2006	221
2007	168
2008	183
<b>2009</b>	<b>314</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>265</b>

These numbers can be compared follows:

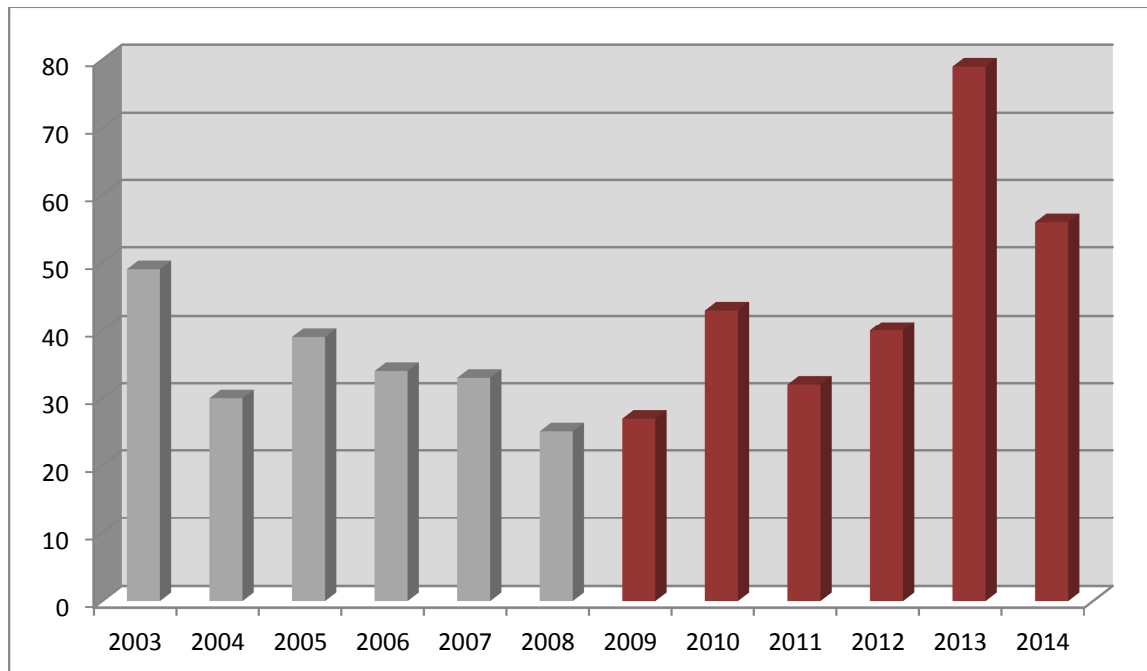


**Department of Corrections Sentences**

In certain felony matters, sentences to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) are necessary to protect the public. In 2014, the State's Attorney's Office obtained convictions resulting in 56 IDOC sentences.

Year	IDOC Sentences
2003	49
2004	30
2005	39
2006	34
2007	33
2008	25
<b>2009</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>56</b>

These numbers compare as follows:



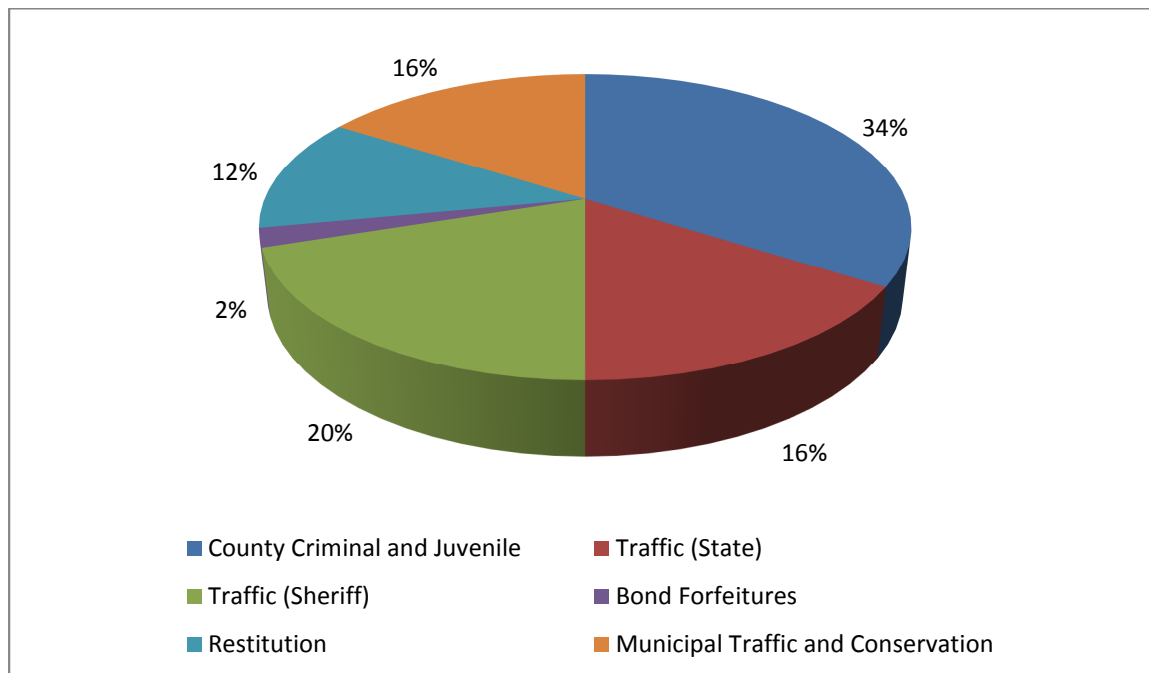


## **Fines and Restitution**

During 2014, the State's Attorney's Office collected over \$345,000 in fines, forfeitures, and other costs to criminal defendants. This amount includes over \$41,000 in restitution to crime victims.

<b>Type of Fine / Judgment</b>	<b>Amount</b>
County Criminal and Juvenile	\$118,087.74
Traffic (State Police)	\$58,045.97
Traffic (Sheriff)	\$69,809.91
Bond Forfeitures	\$6,908.00
Restitution	\$41,146.64
Municipal Traffic and Conservation	\$55,667.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$349,666.22</b>

These numbers can be compared as follows:



## **Victim's Advocate Unit**

The State's Attorney's Office's Victim's Advocate Unit (VAU) provides a variety of services to crime victims to help lessen the trauma associated with victimization. The VAU consists of one Victim's Advocate and one Victim-Witness Coordinator providing a variety of services including:

- Assistance in seeking orders of protection
- 24-hour crisis intervention
- Orientation to court process and procedure
- Regular updates regarding case status and disposition
- Personal, legal, and medical advocacy as well as emotional support
- Referrals to appropriate social service agencies
- Assisting in applying for victim compensation through the Illinois Attorney General's Office.
- Enrollment in Illinois Automated Victim Notification System providing victims with automatic updates regarding case and custody status.

During 2014, the VAU provided services to **821** crime victims.

## **Civil Practice**

The State's Attorney's Office is responsible for legal representation of the County of Union as well as Union County elected officials. The office provides a variety of services in fulfilling these obligations including pursuing and defending civil litigation, negotiating collective bargaining agreements, real property transactions and contracts, and representing the County in grievance and administrative proceedings.

## **Asset Forfeiture**

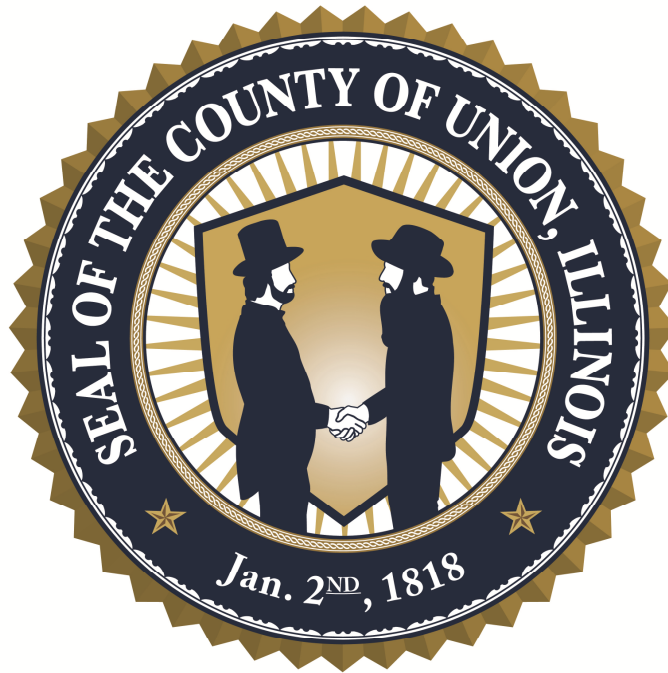
The State's Attorney's Office, under appropriate circumstances, takes legal action to seize and forfeit property used to facilitate crime or which constitutes the proceeds of crime. During 2014, judgment was awarded to the People of the State of Illinois on twenty-one vehicles used in the commission of qualifying offenses.

## **Juvenile Justice Programs**

During 2014, over \$400,000 in grant funding was obtained for juvenile justice programs. Funds were secured to expand and continue the Redeploy Illinois Program which is aimed at reducing juvenile incarceration and reintegrating offending youth into the community. Funds were also secured to create a First Circuit Juvenile Justice Council. The Council will bring together law enforcement, the judicial system and the community to prevent and address juvenile delinquency.

## **Budget and Expenditures**

During 2014, expenditures of the State's Attorney's Office were **\$27,996.29 under budget** with total expenditures of \$388,821.79 and total budget of \$416,818.08.



**Office of the State's Attorney  
Union County, Illinois**

**Tyler R. Edmonds,  
State's Attorney**

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